

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-25 NEA-10

STR-08 OPR-02 A-01 SY-10 JUSE-00 DRC-01 /212 W

----- 072407

R 070930Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1476

INFO AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL KISANGANI

UNCLAS LUBUMBASHI 0117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON CG

SUBJECT: REGIONAL MPR COMMITTEE ISSUES GUIDELINES FOR  
ECONOMIC MEASURES

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT (MPR) WAS HELD THIS WEEK TO CLARIFY PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED BY BUSINESSMEN AFFECTED BY THE TAKEOVER OF FOREIGN OWNED ENTERPRISES. IN THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE VARIOUS CONFUSED INTERPRETATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC DECREES, THE COMMITTEE ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE SETTING FORTH THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE NEW AND OLD OWNERS.

THE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A DELAY UNTIL MARCH 15, 1974 HAS BEEN GRANTED TO

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ALLOW THE SETTLEMENT OF AFFAIRS BETWEEN THE OLD AND

NEW OWNERS.

2. THE NEW OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPENSATING THE FORMER WONER FOR HIS INVESTMENT. THE STATE HOLDS ITSELF RESPONSIBLE ONLY FOR THE INDEMNIFICATION OF THE OWNERS OF BUSINESSES TAKEN OVER BY THE STATE OR BY ITS AGENCIES.

3. GREEKS, CYPRIOTS, PORTUGUESE, AND OTHERS WHOSE BUSINESSES HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER ARE FREE TO CONTINUE TO LIVE AND WORK IN ZAIRE. IN THE CASES OF PORTUGUESE RESIDING IN CERTAINS ZONES, A SPECIAL SOLUTION (UNSPECIFIED) WILL BE FOUND.

4. IF THE ASSETS OF A BUSINESS EXCEED ITS LIABILITIES, THE NEW OWNER MUST ASSUME THE LIABILITIES. IF, HOWEVER, LIABILITIES EXCEED ASSETS, THE FORMER OWNER REMAINS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIABILITIES. DEBTS INCURRED AFTER THE TAKEOVER ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NEW OWNER.

5. NEW OWNERS MUST REGISTER WITH THE TAXATION SERVICE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. NEW OWNERS MUST CONTINUE TO OPERATE THEIR BUSINESSES AND MAINTAIN PROPER RECORDS, ON PENALTY OF FORFEITURE.

7. SUPPLIERS ARE INVITED TO EXTEND CREDIT TO ZAIRIANS WHO HAVE TAKEN OVER HEALTHY BUSINESSES. THOSE WHO RECEIVE CREDIT MUST RESPECT THESE OBLIGATIONS.

8. NEW OWNERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE PROPRIETORSHIP OF A BUSINESS WAS NOT A GIFT BUT A CIVIC DUTY WHICH MUST BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. NEW OWNERS THUS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO MAKE REGULAR BANK DEPOSITS RATHER THAN RETAINING BUSINESS PROCEEDS AT HOME.

9. ALL ITEMS BELONGING TO THE BUSINESS AND NECESSARY FOR ITS OPERATION WERE INCLUDED IN THE TAKEOVER. COMPANY LEDGERS SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO AVOID CONFUSION.

10. FOREIGN NAMES OF BUSINESS MUST BE CHANGED.  
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11. ALL PERSONNEL, BOTH ZAIRIAN AND EXPATRIATE, MUST BE RETAINED.

12. WHENEVER, THERE IS MORE THAN ONE CLAIMANT TO AN ENTERPRISE, THE FIRST PERSON TO PRESENT A LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION WILL BE CONSIDERED THE RIGHTFUL OWNER.  
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